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January 30, 2002

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The contract checkers companies

Your Reference: 09/324,920 Our Reference: 11483-33

RESPONSE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

The Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A. 20231

Received

FEB 0 1 2002

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

Re:

United States Patent Application No. 09/324,920

For: RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD PROVIDING

RULE-BASED EVOLUTION OF A PORTFOLIO OF INSTRUMENTS

Filed: June 3, 1999 Inventors: Degraaf et al.

Examiner: Bayshore (was Calve, J.) Art Unit: 2164

In response to the final Office Action dated September 12, 2001, please amend the above application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 4-33.

Insert new claims 34-54 as follows:

- 34. A method of determining the risk associated with a user's portfolio by simulating changes to the composition of a dynamic portfolio under a plurality of scenarios at a plurality of time steps, the user's portfolio comprising a plurality of instruments, said method comprising the steps of
 - (a) generating a dynamic portfolio, said dynamic portfolio comprising a plurality of instruments and having an initial composition that is identical to the composition of the user's portfolio;